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W. Law
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 016887/1012

Applicant: Kazuo SASAMA

Title: AUTO FOCUS MECHANISM IN IMAGE INPUT APPARATUS

Serial No.: 09/671,152

Filed: September 28, 2000

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: 2851

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56 and 37 CFR §1.97**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a list of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any documents which is determined to be a prima facie prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The instant Information Disclosure Statement is believed to be filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b), prior to the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits (first scenario). If that is not the case, such as in a second scenario in which a first Office Action on the merits has been mailed before the filing of the instant Information Disclosure Statement, then either a certification or fee is required, and a certification is provided below. If neither of the first or second scenarios is the case, such as if a final Office Action or a notice of allowance has been mailed by the PTO (third scenario), then both a certification and fee are required, and in that case a certification is provided below and also the PTO is authorized to obtain the necessary fee to have the instant IDS considered, from Foley & Lardner Deposit Account #19-0741.

CERTIFICATION

Applicant certifies that no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making a reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

A1 relates to the position of a lens and an image sensor that is moved, whereby it controls so that the distance from a manuscript side to a joint lens becomes always equal, and whereby a focal gap is rectified.

A2 relates to a lens and an opto-electronic device that are moved and whereby manuscript side information always make images on an opto-electronic device.

Applicant respectfully requests that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and formally be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

Respectfully submitted,

June 13, 2002
Date

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